SHIELD
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# NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD

SO LONG AS FURY WEARS THAT *HELMET--*

HE IS *OURS* TO COMMAND!

AND *THRU* HIM--WE SHALL *DESTROY* SHIELD!!

A *TRIO* OF TERRORISTS! THE FIXER! MENTALLO! AND THE DEADLY DRUID!

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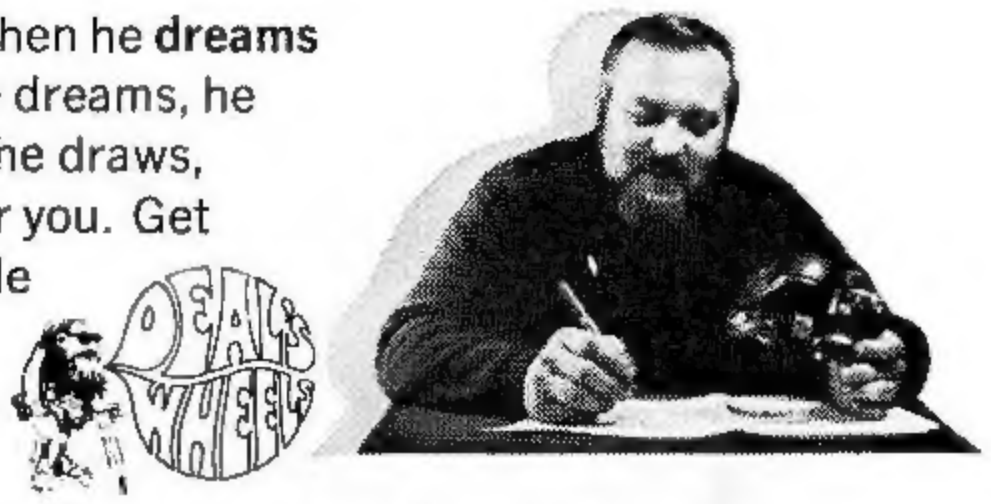

# Revell BUG BOMB

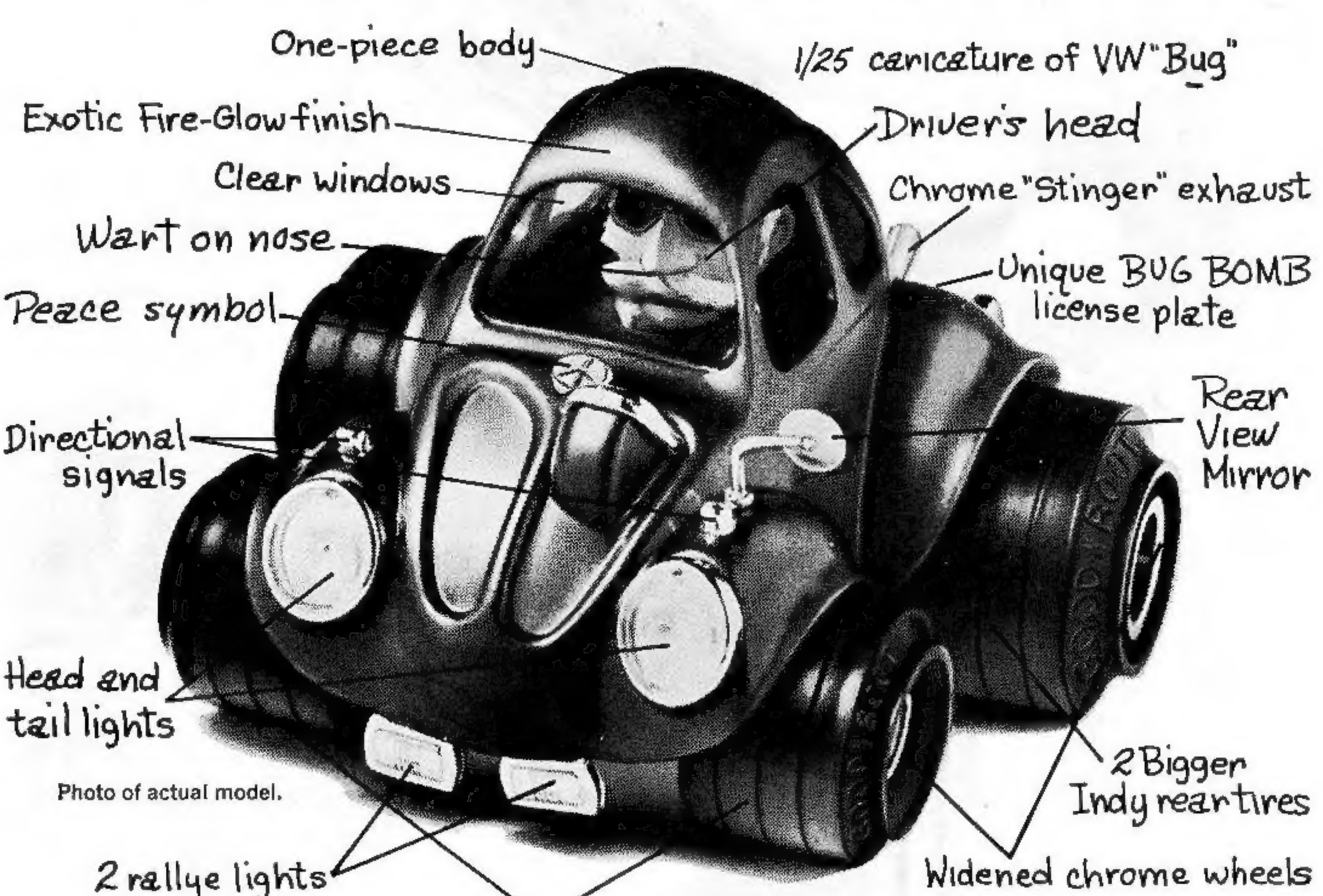


Photo of actual model.

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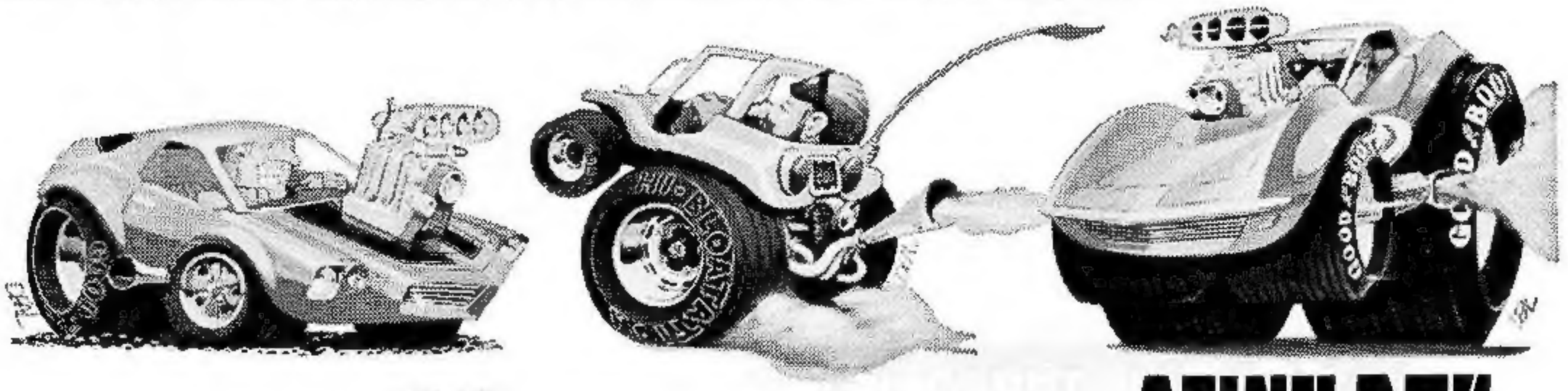

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# NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!

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# "WHO STRIKES AT... SHIELD?"

ONE MAN ON EARTH, WITH THE POWER TO READ MINDS--AND TO PROJECT MENTAL IMAGES--HAS VOWED TO *DESTROY SHIELD!* BUT, THE WORLD'S GREATEST COUNTER-ESPIONAGE AGENCY *KNOWS* OF THE DANGER, AND *NICK FURY* FRANTICALLY PREPARES A DEFENSE--AGAINST THE GREATEST DANGER OF ALL....!

IT'S *WORKING!!* DIDJA SEE THAT *DRAW?* *NOTHIN'* CAN GIT PAST OUR "WILD BILL" ROBOT!

BUT IT WASN'T *PROGRAMMED* TO STRIKE YET! IT'S *OUT OF CONTROL,* COLONEL FURY!

*BLOOM!*

*PTOOM!*

STAN LEE, WRITER
JACK KIRBY, PENCILLER
MIKE DEMEO, INKER
ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER

TO GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF OUR GENEROSITY, THIS ROBOT ISN'T EVEN IMPORTANT TO OUR YARN! WE JUST TOSSED 'IM IN AS AN ADDED EXTRA FOR YOU!



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SOME DEFENSE! THAT THING'S MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE GUY WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT!

PTOOM!

MOVE, YA MEATHEADS! GRAB THAT REMOTE CONTROL SWITCH! LEAN ON IT!

RRRRR!

DUCK, HARRY! DUCK!

RRRRR!

I'LL GET IT! I'M THE CLOSEST!

THE CUT-OFF UNIT IS WEAKENING HIM! HE'S SLOWING DOWN!

THAT'S NOT ENOUGH! STOP 'IM COMPLETELY, MISTER, OR I'LL BLAST 'IM INTO DUST WITH A ROCKET PISTOL SHELL!

HOLD YER FIRE, CHARLIE! HE'S STOPPED!

I WANT THE NAME OF THE AGENT WHO OKAYED "WILD BILL" FOR TESTING BEFORE TONY STARK HAD A CHANCE TO CHECK 'IM OUT!

NO MAN MAKES MORE'N ONE MISTAKE IN SHIELD! NOW LOOK ALIVE, YOU CLOWNS! GIT THIS MESS CLEANED UP!

EXACTLY TEN SECONDS LATER...

WE HEARD THE FRACAS, COLONEL, AND THOUGHT YOU MIGHT *NEED* US! WE'RE EXPECTIN' *MENTALLO* TO LAUNCH HIS ATTACK AGAINST US AT ANY TIME!

*MENTALLO*?? YA MEAN THE CREEP WHO CAN READ MINDS? WITH A CORNBALL NAME LIKE *THAT*, HE SOUNDS TOO *PHONY* TA BE TRUE!

DON'T LET HIS *NAME* FOOL YOU, FURY! HE'S SMART, AND TOUGH--AND DEADLY! AND REMEMBER--HE CAN READ OUR EVERY THOUGHT--CAN PROBE OUR EVERY SECRET!

OKAY! OKAY! I GIT THE PITCH! I'M GONNA SEE IF WE GOT A *FIX* ON 'IM YET!

WHAT'S SHAKIN', DOC? WHATCHA DOIN' WITH THAT KING-SIZED TINKER-TOY YER TICKLIN'?

ESP DIV

THIS HAPPENS TO BE AN AUTOMATIC ENCEPHALOGRAM-INDUCER, FOR CYBERNETIC VISUALIZATION!

AINT THAT DUCKY! NOW RUN THRU IT AGAIN--IN *ENGLISH*!

IT'S MR. STARK'S LATEST TRANSISTORIZED INNOVATION, COLONEL--

OUR HYPER-SENSITIVE SUBJECTS SIT UNDER THE *BRAINWAVE STIMULATOR*! THEY ARE TRYING TO LOCATE THE ONE WE SEEK!

AS SOON AS THEY CAN MENTALLY *FIND* HIM, THEIR THOUGHTS WILL BE PROJECTED ON THAT CONVEX GLASS SCREEN! IT'S OUR ONLY WEAPON AGAINST *MENTALLO*!

YA MEAN THEY TRY TA *THINK* OF WHERE HE IS, AND THAT DO-IT-YERSELF TV SET SHOWS US THE ANSWER?

WHY IN BLAZES DIDN'T YA JUST *SAY SO*?!!

LOOK! THERE'S SOMETHIN' TAKIN' SHAPE ON THE SCREEN RIGHT *NOW*!

THEY'VE ALL BEEN CONCENTRATING ON *MENTALLO*! DO YOU THINK IT CAN BE *HIM*?

WELL, IT SURE AS HECK AIN'T *SOUPY SALES*!

BUT HE'S SWIMMING *UNDERWATER*! I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO ATTACK *US*?!

MEBBE HE THINKS WE LIVE IN A *FISHBOWL*!

LESSEE WHAT *HAPPENS*! THIS IS ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE *FLINTSTONES*!

AND, AS THE HARD-BITTEN DIRECTOR OF SHIELD WATCHES EVERY MOVE WITH UNBLINKING, COLD STEEL EYES, *THIS* IS WHAT HE SEES...

SINCE ESCAPING FROM JAIL, THE *FIXER* HAS SET ALL SORTS OF TRAPS TO PREVENT BEING RECAPTURED!

BUT, *NO* TRAP CAN STOP A MAN WHO CAN *READ MINDS*--A MAN WHO *KNOWS* EVERY-THING THE FIXER HAS DONE!

*THERE!* THAT FINISHES THE LAST OF THE HIDDEN *MINES*

NOW TO EXPLODE THE *MISSILES* WHICH FORM HIS SECOND LINE OF DEFENSE!

I KNOW THE PRECISE SPOT TO STAND WHERE I'LL BE COMPLETELY UNTOUCHED!

SOME OF THESE BOOBY-TRAP *BALLOONS* ARE LETHAL--OTHERS ARE HARMLESS! ONLY *MENTALLO* WOULD KNOW WHICH ONES IT IS SAFE TO SWIM BETWEEN!

I CAN TELL THAT THE FIXER IS OBSERVING ME RIGHT *NOW*, FROM HIS UNDERSEA SANCTUARY! HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW I HAVE MANAGED TO COME THIS CLOSE!

HIS *CURIOSITY* IS AROUSED, AS I KNEW IT *WOULD* BE! HE IS OPENING THE AIR-LOCK TO ADMIT ME!

WHAT A *PARTNER* HE WILL MAKE FOR MENTALLO! ONLY A *GENIUS* COULD HAVE CREATED SUCH A HIDEOUT!

FINALLY, THE TWO STRANGELY SINISTER MEN MEET--FACE-TO-FACE, AT LAST!

ONLY A *MIND-READER* COULD HAVE FOUND MY HIDING PLACE!

THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT I *AM!* I AM *MENTALLO!*

I AM HERE TO OFFER YOU THE GREATEST PRIZE IN THE WORLD! JOIN ME, AND TOGETHER *WE CAN TAKE OVER* ---*SHIELD!*

AND, BACK AT SHIELD HQ, ALTHOUGH UNABLE TO HEAR WHAT HAS BEEN SAID, NICK FURY IS EQUALLY DETERMINED TO *PROTECT* THE VITAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HE HEADS...!

THAT'S THE WAYWARD GENIUS KNOWN AS THE *FIXER!* HE ESCAPED FROM PRISON A SHORT TIME AGO!

THE *FIXER*, HUH? I HEARD OF 'IM!

HE'S SUPPOSED TA BE IN *TONY STARK'S* CLASS WHEN IT COMES TO INVENTIN' *WEAPONS!*

*NOW* I GIT IT! MENTALLO WANTS TA *TEAM UP* WITH 'IM-- TO ATTACK *US!*

BUT WE'LL BEAT 'EM TO THE PUNCH! I'LL GIT A TASK FORCE READY ON THE *DOUBLE!* WE'LL HIT 'EM WITH EVERYTHING WE *GOT!*

I'M AFRAID *NOT*, COLONEL! WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING EXACTLY WHERE THEY *ARE!*

THEY COULD BE UNDER A NEARBY LAKE--OR A SEA OR OCEAN ANY-WHERE IN THE WORLD!

THANKS A *HEAP!* YA BEEN A REAL BIG *HELP!*

LOOKS LIKE WE *GOTTA* WAIT TILL THEY STRIKE *FIRST!*

WELL, AT LEAST OUR JOES'RE KEEPIN' UP THEIR *TRAININ'!* MEBBE THEY AINT *MIND-READERS*, BUT THEY'RE *FIGHTERS!*

THE *PORTABLE DISTORTERS* REALLY WORK! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO LAND A BLOW ON ME *YET!*

*HOLD IT*, MEN! HERE COMES THE *COLONEL!* AS YOU *WERE!*

WHAM!

LOOKS LIKE ORDNANCE REALLY CAME *THRU*, SIR! THESE GADGETS BROADCAST INAUDIBLE FREQUENCIES WHICH UPSET ANY OPPONENTS' NERVOUS SYSTEMS, AS WELL AS SPOILING THEIR TIMING!

AWRIGHT! WHEN I NEED A *SPEECH*, I'LL *ASK* FER ONE! PASS 'EM OUT TO YOUR SQUAD! THEN *STAND BY!* THAT'S *ALL!*

WHAT'S GETTIN' *INTA* ME? WHAT AM I BARKIN' AT *HIM* FOR?

MEBBE IT'S 'CAUSE I KNOW NONE OF THIS JAZZ'LL STOP *MENTALLO!*

HE'LL KNOW ABOUT OUR WEAPONS--OUR DEFENSES--AS FAST AS *WE* DO! AND HE'LL KNOW HOW TA *BYPASS* EM!

I NEED AN ACE-IN-THE-HOLE! A REAL *BLOCK-BUSTER!* BUT-- *WHAT?!?!*

THEN, IN THE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION...

MOVE ALONG, MEN! THE COLONEL'S READY FOR HIS INTER-CONTINENTAL PHONE HOOK-UP!

C'MON! C'MON! GIT THIS THING ATTACHED! OUR OTHER BASES COULD BE DYIN' ON THE VINE WHILE YOU GUYS PLAY PATTY-CAKE WITH THEM WIRES!

ALL SET, COLONEL! READY FOR TRANS-MISSION!

WITH THE SPEED AND DIRECTNESS OF A BORN FIGHTING MAN, NICK FURY CONTACTS OTHER FAR-FLUNG SHIELD UNITS THRUOUT THE GLOBE, WITHOUT WASTING A SYLLABLE...!

WHAT ABOUT INFERNO 42? IT HASN'T BEEN RECEIVED HERE YET! CHECK ON IT!

NOTIFY ME PRONTO IF BATROC, THE LEAPER, SHOWS UP!* NOW SWITCH ME TO HONG KONG! MOVE, BLAST IT!

*NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW, BUT YOU CAN CATCH UP ON BATROC AND INFERNO 42 IN SUSPENSE #75! --PLUG-HAPPY STAN.

BUT, EVEN AS FURY SPEAKS, THE MOST FANTASTIC OF ALL THE FIXER'S DEADLY DEVICES PREPARES TO HIT SHIELD FROM UNDERGROUND!

LOOK, FIXER--EVEN IF YOU ARE THE POOR MAN'S TONY STARK, NOBODY CAN BUILD A MACHINE LIKE THIS THRU-THE-GROUND TANK BY HIMSELF!

I NEVER CLAIMED TO DO ALL THIS CONSTRUCTION ALONE, MENTALLO!

I HAVE BEEN HELPED BY--THEM!

THEM? I HAVE NEVER HEARD YOU SPEAK OF ANYONE ELSE BEFORE! WHO ARE THEY?

AH, THAT, MY NEW-FOUND PARTNER, IS SOMETHING THAT EVEN YOU MAY NEVER KNOW!

HOLD IT! I'M RECEIVING A MENTAL IMPRESSION! THERE'S DANGER AHEAD!

SHIELD HAS DROPPED A PROTECTIVE WALL IN FRONT OF US! IT'S TWENTY-FOOT-THICK CONCRETE!

WE'LL HAVE TO STOP AND LEAVE THE SHIP TO EXAMINE IT!

BUT FIRST, MY HIGH-PRESSURE TURBO-BLOWERS WILL HAVE TO COOL THE MOLTEN FIRES CAUSED BY OUR ROCKET'S ENGINES!

WHOOSH!

THEN, AFTER THE TUNNEL HAS BEEN QUICKLY COOLED...

MY MENTAL PROBE REVEALS THAT EVEN YOUR ROCKETS CANNOT POSSIBLY PENETRATE THE WALL!

LET ME WORRY ABOUT THAT! THE FIXER IS NEVER AT A LOSS FOR THE PROPER WEAPON!

AND, AFTER A FEW FRANTIC MOMENTS OF DEFT MECHANICAL MANIPULATION...

THERE! I'VE MODIFIED MY TURBO-BLOWERS, TRANSFORMING THEM INTO GIANT JERICHO TUBES!

JERICHO TUBES?!

YES! LIKE JOSHUA, WE'RE ABOUT TO BLOW DOWN THE WALLS OF JERICHO!

WATCH--!

UNEXPECTEDLY, THE FIXER BELLOWS INTO THE TWIN TUBES--TUBES WHICH MAGNIFY THE SOUND TO AN UNIMAGINABLE SONIC PITCH--HURLING IT LIKE A THUNDERBOLT AT THE WALL AHEAD OF HIM--!

AND, WITHIN SECONDS, THE IRRESISTIBLE VIBRATIONS COMPLETELY SHATTER THE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE OF THE GREAT WALL, CAUSING IT TO CRUMBLE LIKE PUTTY--!

ARHHH

SAY! YOU-- YOU DID IT!

NATURALLY! AM I NOT-- THE FIXER?!

WE'RE INSIDE SHIELD HEADQUARTERS! WE'VE DONE WHAT NO ONE HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO DO BEFORE US!

NOW, I'VE A SPECIALLY-PREPARED STATIC DISTORTER! THIS DEVICE WILL PUT AN END TO ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION IN THE AREA!

THAT MEANS THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO RECEIVE OR TRANSMIT COMMANDS! IT GIVES US THE ADVANTAGE!

AND, A MOMENT LATER, IN SHIELD'S STRATEGICALLY-PLACED MESSAGE CENTER--

MAYDAY! MAYDAY! THE RADIO IS DEAD!

ALL COMMUNICATION HAS SUDDENLY COME TO A STOP!

SOME SORT OF DISTORTER IS BEING USED AGAINST US! KEEP TRYING! WE'VE GOT TO REACH COL. FURY!

WAIT! I'M GETTING SOMETHING! IT'S WEAK, BUT--!

IT'S HIM! BUT--WE CAN'T HEAR WHAT HE'S SAYING! AND THE PICTURE'S FADING!

HE KNOWS WE'RE NOT READING HIM! I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LOOK SO GRIM--SO DESPERATE!

KR-RSH!

IT'S NO USE! WE CAN'T GIT THRU TO 'EM! IT MEANS WE ALL GOTTA FIGHT ON OUR OWN!

BUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT, COLONEL?

WHAT'S WRONG --??!

WE'RE A TEAM, BLAST IT! WE TRAINED MONTH AFTER MONTH TA LIVE LIKE A TEAM--FIGHT LIKE A TEAM--DIE LIKE A TEAM!

BUT, WE'LL STOP 'EM ANYHOW! EVEN IF THEY BUST THRU EVERY TRAP WE SET FOR 'EM, THEY GOTTA COME THRU HERE--THEY GOTTA FACE--US!

NOW, GIT TO YER POSTS! GOWAN--MOVE!



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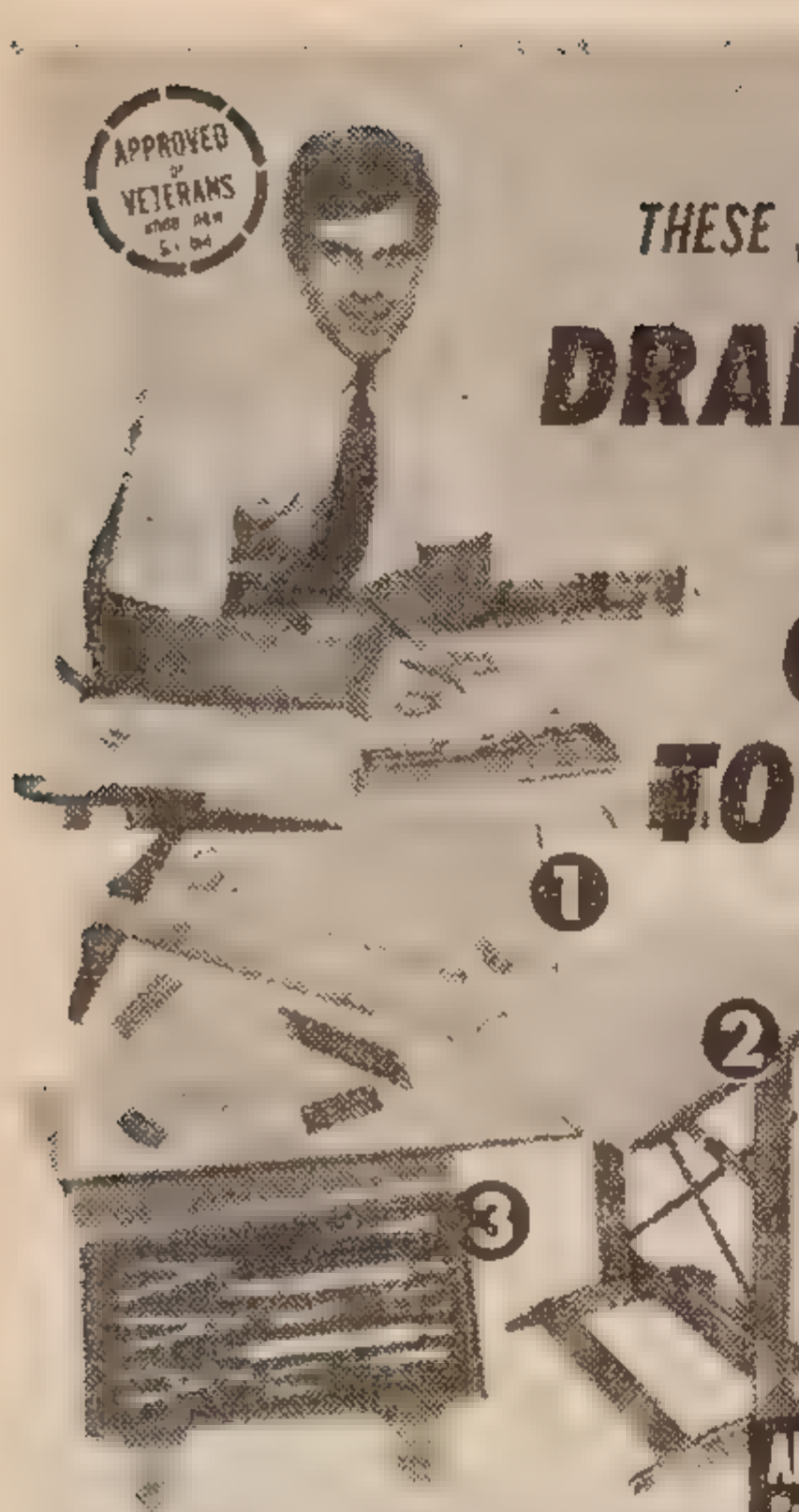


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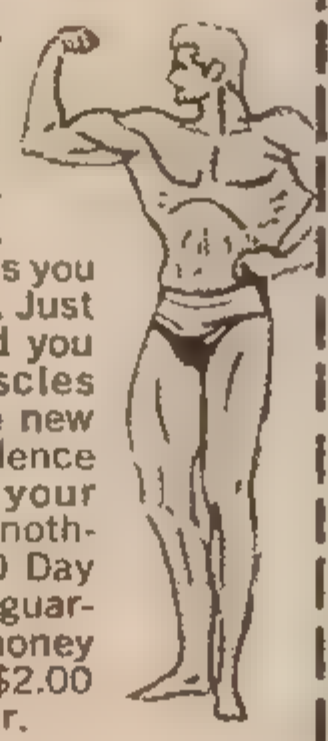

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SECONDS LATER, THE TWO INCREDIBLE INVADERS ACCIDENTALLY TRIGGER ONE OF SHIELD'S MOST POWERFUL DEFENSES--

THESE *MOVING WALLS* WILL BOX US IN! AND MY *JERICHO TUBE* CAN'T AFFECT THEM--

WE'RE NOT BEATEN *YET!* I CAN MENTALLY SENSE THE *WEAKEST* SPOT IN THE WALL....!

THEY'RE MADE OF A STEEL-HARD *FIBER* INSTEAD OF METAL!

*EXCELLENT!* NOW, STAND BACK WHILE I PLACE A SMALL, MECHANICAL *RADAR CRAB* ON THE AREA YOU'VE SELECTED!

SEE HOW IT MOVES ALONG THE WALL IN A PERFECT *CIRCLE*, LEAVING A TRAIL OF *RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPE* BEHIND IT....!

WHAT A *PARTNER!* YOU'VE GOT A GADGET FOR *EVERY-THING!*

*THERE!* THE CHEMICAL HAS EATEN RIGHT *THRU* THE WALL--AS I KNEW IT WOULD!

*HOLD IT!* I'M GETTING A THOUGHT! I CAN SENSE *HIDDEN ARMAMENTS* DIRECTLY *AHEAD* OF US!

AND, EVEN AS MENTALLO SPEAKS, AN ALUMINUM WALL PANEL SLIDES SILENTLY OPEN, REVEALING A COMPLEX OF *STUN GUNS*--AUTOMATICALLY ZEROED-IN ON THEIR TWO HUMAN TARGETS--!

FIRE

CEASE FIRE

ALERT

*FIXER!* DO SOMETHING!

EVEN BEFORE MENTALLO'S CRY HAS DIED AWAY, THE FANTASTIC *FIXER* PRESSES A HIDDEN STUD ON ONE OF HIS MYRIAD WEAPONS, INSTANTLY CAUSING A BASIC *VIBRO-MISSILE DEFLECTER* TO SPRING INTO POSITION--

*KAWANNG!*

QUICKLY, MENTALLO --USE YOUR *PISTOL GRENADE* ON THE GUNS AHEAD OF US!

KRAK

PERFECT! YOU GAVE ME ALL THE TIME I NEEDED!

NOW THAT I'VE SENSED WHERE THE MAIN CONTROL IS PLACED, I KNOW EXACTLY WHICH SPOT TO AIM FOR--!

WE DID IT!

FIXER--THIS IS IT! I CAN DETECT FURY AND HIS MEN--DIRECTLY BEHIND THIS DOOR!

WE MUSTN'T STOP NOW! WE'VE GOT TO KEEP ATTACKING--WE MUST GIVE THEM NO TIME TO PREPARE NEW DEFENSES!

ONCE WE REACH THEM, MY SPECIALLY-PREPARED ELEMENT Z WILL BRING US THE FINAL VICTORY!

AND, BEHIND THE MASSIVE STEEL DOOR, WE FIND...

THAT BLAST WE HEARD MEANS THEY JUST CLOBBERED OUR LAST DEFENSE!

GIT READY, YOU CLOWNS! THAT TIN DOOR AINT GONNA HOLD 'EM BACK FOR LONG!

THE ADVANTAGE IS THEIRS! THAT BLASTED MIND READER KNOWS EVERYTHING WE'VE PLANNED--AND THE FIXER HAS WEAPONS ALL PREPARED TO OUT-DO OUR OWN!

BUT I NEVER GAVE UP BEFORE, AND I'M TOO OLD TA START NOW!

SAME GOES FOR US, COLONEL! WE'LL GO DOWN FIGHTING!

OKAY! SAVE THE FLAG-WAVIN' FOR LATER! THEY'RE STARTIN' TA BUST THRU!

RAISE YER RIFLES! SHOOT AT ANYTHING THAT MOVES! HERE THEY COME--!

BWOK!

IT WORKED! THEY DIDN'T EXPECT US TO USE ANTI-GRAV PROPELLANTS! THEIR FIRST SHOTS WERE TOO LOW!

AND THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO RE-AIM! YOUR NEUTRINO SHELLS WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT!

BLAST IT! THE DOOR FELL INWARD --BLOCKIN' OUR VISION FOR A COUPLE O'SECONDS! THEY'RE MOVIN' TOO FAST! BUT WE'LL GET 'EM! WE'VE GOTTA GET 'EM--!

PWEE!

THAK

BWOK!

BUT, BEFORE ANY OF THE VALIANT DEFENDERS' SHELLS CAN FIND THEIR MARK, A STARTLED NICK FURY SEES--!

MY GUYS ARE DROPPIN' LIKE FLIES! THEY'RE ALL STIFF--'N RIGID! SOMETHIN' PENETRATED THEIR ARMORED SUITS!

SURPRISED, COLONEL? OUR NEUTRINO SHELLS HAVE MERELY RELEASED ELEMENT Z WHICH CAN SEEP THRU ANY MATERIAL!

IT'S BEGINNIN' TO AFFECT ME, TOO! I'M GETTIN' STIFF-- PARALYZED--! NO! GOTTA KEEP FIRIN'! CAN'T LET 'EM GIT PAST ME! CAN'T! CAN'T!

NO NEED FOR ALARM, FURY! THE NEUTRINO PARTICLES WILL NOT PROVE FATAL! ALTHOUGH, LATER ON, YOU MAY WISH THAT THEY DID!

CAN'T MOVE! CAN'T THINK! CAN'T EVEN STOP FIRING! BLACKIN' OUT--!

WE *SALUTE* YOU, COLONEL! YOU HAVE FALLEN IN THE BEST *MOVIE HERO* MANNER--FIGHTING TILL THE END!

AND, FOR *YOU*-- AND THE NOW-DEFEATED ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS *SHIELD* --THIS TRULY *IS*-- *THE END!*

NO! NO! NOOOooo...

HE'S UNCONSCIOUS! WE'VE *WON!* SHIELD IS *OURS!*

BUT, THE BEST IS YET TO BE! FURY'S FIGHTING HEART SHALL NOT BE *LOST* TO US!

INSTEAD OF *FIGHTING* US, HE WILL BECOME OUR *ALLY!* *FIXER*, DID YOU BRING THE *ELECTRONIC MASK?*

OF *COURSE!* IT WILL MAKE OUR *TRIUMPH* EVEN MORE SPECTACULAR THAN EVER!

ALL WE NEED DO IS REMOVE FURY'S PROTECTIVE GLASS HELMET... AND REPLACE IT WITH *THIS!*

THE ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS OF THE MASK HE NOW WEARS WILL ALTER THE CEREBELLAR PATTERN OF HIS BRAIN...!

THUS, COLONEL FURY IS *OURS* TO COMMAND! FOR, HE MUST NOW OBEY EACH AND EVERY *ORDER* WE CHOOSE TO GIVE HIM!

*RISE*, SLAVE! PREPARE TO SERVE THE NEW *MASTERS OF SHIELD!*

BUT, ALL IS *NOT* AS HOPELESS AS IT MAY SEEM! PREPARE YOURSELF FOR SHOCKING SURPRISES NEXT ISH, AS YOU SEE FURY FIGHT BACK AS NEVER BEFORE! TILL THEN-- *DON'T YIELD!* *BACK SHIELD!*

MIGHTY MARVEL'S OWN

# NOSTALGIA DEPT.

STRANGE TALES

142 MAR

12¢

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

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IHD

NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

WE DO HAVE A LITTLE FUN THIS THRILLER HONEST" BUT JERRY WACK DIDN'T LEAVE US ANY ROOM TO PUT IT'

REMEMBER WHEN... S.H.I.E.L.D. COVERS HAD NO SPACE FOR A TITLE?

# REMEMBER WHEN...

STRANGE TALES

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

IND.

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

143 APR

12¢

"TO FREE A BRAIN SLAVE!"

NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

TIC-TIC

TIC-TIC

TIC-TIC

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SSSS

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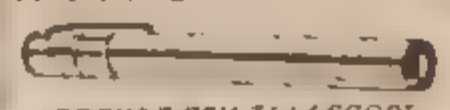

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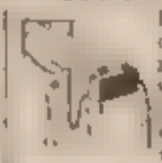

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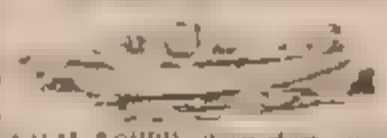

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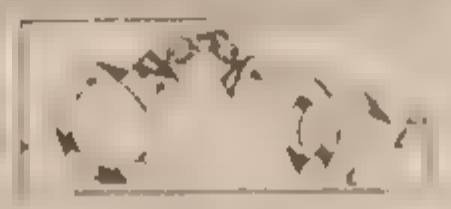

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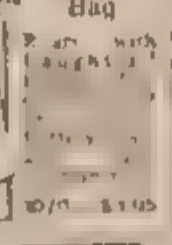

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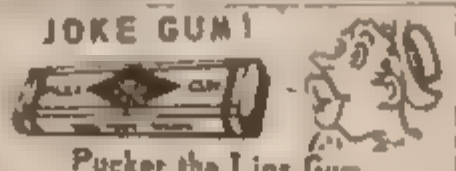

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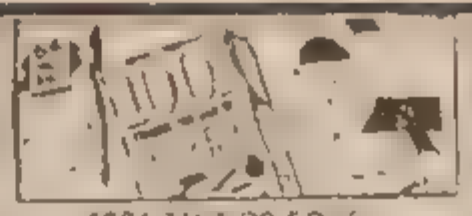

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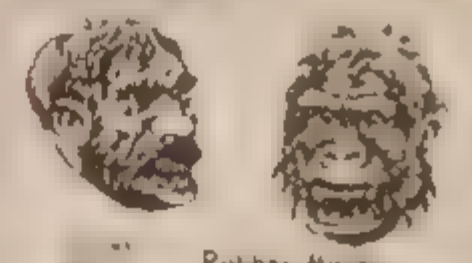

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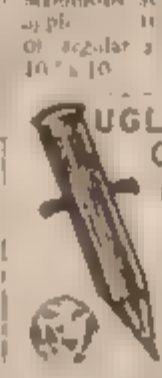

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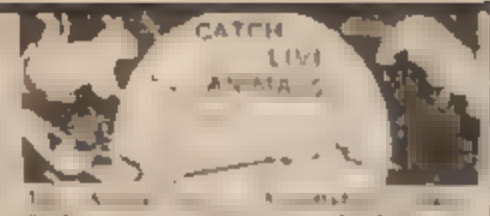
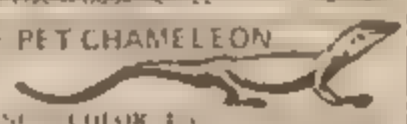



Free A Book

LIVE PET CHAMELEON



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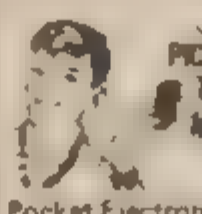

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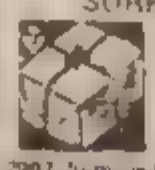

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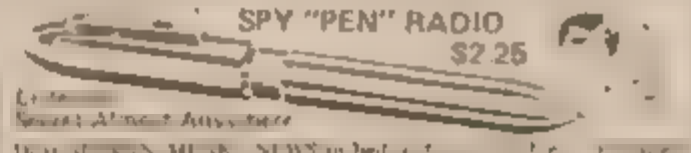

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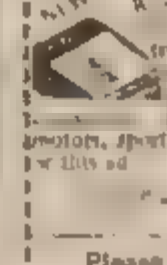

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# NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION!

# "TO FREE A BRAIN SLAVE"

FURY! THIS IS DUM DUM! DO YOU READ ME? COME IN, COLONEL! COME IN!

SO LONG AS FURY WEARS THAT HELMET, HE IS OURS TO COMMAND! SHIELD HAS LOST ITS LEADER!

NICK FURY

THE TIME HAS COME, FIXER! I SHALL ANNOUNCE THAT YOU AND I ARE NOW COMPLETELY IN CONTROL OF SHIELD!

MENTALLO, THE MIND-READER, AND THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS KNOWN AS THE FIXER, HAVE SUCCESSFULLY INVADED SHIELD HQ AND HAVE ENCASED NICK FURY'S HEAD IN A HELMET WHICH COMPELS HIM TO OBEY THEIR EVERY COMMAND! AND NOW, YOU KNOW AS MUCH AS WE DO! (MAYBE MORE, BECAUSE WE HAVE A TENDENCY TO FORGET A LOT!)

STORY.....STAN LEE
ART.....JACK KIRBY
WITH AN ASSIST BY:
HOWARD PURCELL
INKING.... M. DEMEO
LETTERING:
A. SIMEK

I FURNISHED THE WEAPONS WHICH ENABLED YOU TO *INVADE* SHIELD'S HEADQUARTERS! I CREATED THE HELMET WHICH MAKES FURY YOUR MENTAL SLAVE! NOW, IT'S UP TO *YOU* TO DO THE *REST*, MENTALLO!

*BAH!* IT WASN'T YOU *ALONE*, FIXER! SOME DAY I'LL LEARN WHO THE *TRUE POWER* BEHIND YOU REALLY IS! BUT, TIME ENOUGH FOR THAT *LATER!*

*ATTENTION*, SHIELD AGENTS! FURY IS OUR *PRISONER!* *LAY DOWN* YOUR *ARMS!*

NICK FURY

*REPEAT!* LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS! THE NEW *MASTERS* OF SHIELD COMMAND YOU!

BUT, INSTEAD OF *OBEYING* THE INCREDIBLE SUMMONS...

*MOVE* THIS CRATE! ANYONE STRONG ENUFF TO BEAT FURY ON HIS HOME GROUNDS IS MORE THAN *WE* CAN HANDLE!

WE GOTTA ALERT OUR *MAIN* FORCE! HEAD FOR OUR HIDDEN AIRPORT! *FASTER!*

FURY *WARNED* US THAT *NO* DEFENSES COULD *STOP* A REAL MIND-READER LIKE *MENTALLO!* BUT WE'LL *FIND* A WAY! WE'VE *GOTTA*--!

YOU *KNOW* IT! SHIELD ISN'T LICKED YET! LET'S PLAY IT THE WAY THE COLONEL WOULD *WANT* US TO!

WE'VE REACHED THE AIRPORT! TIGHTEN YOUR HARNESS BELTS, YOU GUYS! WE'RE GOIN' *DOWN!!*

WITHIN SECONDS, THE SMALL, DEDICATED TASK FORCE RACES THRU A CAMOUFLAGED DOOR INTO A GLOOMY, AIR-CONDITIONED *TUNNEL*--

INTO THE *TRAIN!* ON THE *DOUBLE!* EVERY SECOND COUNTS! *LIFT 'EM*, BLAST IT!

I WOULDN'T WANNA BE THOSE TWO HYENAS WHO GRABBED FURY-- NOT WHEN *SHIELD* STRIKES BACK!

MINUTES LATER, DUM DUM DUGAN'S GRIM COMMANDO-TRAINED SQUAD REACHES THE MAIN ARSENAL DEPOT OF *SHIELD*, THE GREATEST DEFENSIVE ORGANIZATION THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN--!

NO, GENERAL! THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION TO COLONEL FURY'S COMMAND POST ARE NOT OPERATIONAL! REPEAT--*NOT* OPERATIONAL! WE'LL KEEP TRYING, SIR!

*ANTHONY STARK* HAS TAKEN COMMAND OF COMBAT PLANNING IN FURY'S ABSENCE, SIR! HE'S DEVISING COUNTER-MEASURES AT THIS MOMENT!

MUST END RELAY NOW, GENERAL! THE *WHITE HOUSE* IS FLASHING ON CIRCUIT TWO! OVER AND OUT!

*DUM DUM!* ABOUT TIME YOU GOT HERE! HAVE YOUR SQUAD JOIN THE *ASSAULT FORCE* AT THE JUMP-OFF AREA! YOU'LL TAKE YOUR ORDERS DIRECTLY FROM *ME!*

THE *REST* OF YOU--*CLEAR THIS AREA!* IT'S TIME TO TEST MY *NEUTRALIZER!*

SHIE

CONNECT ME WITH *NATO!* RED ALERT! RED ALERT! STAND BY FOR FURTHER TRANSMISSION--!

YES SIR, MR. STARK! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

ALL NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL! *CLEAR THE AREA! CLEAR THE AREA!*

MR. STARK--HOW CAN YOUR *NEUTRALIZER* FREE COLONEL FURY?

IT *CAN'T!* IT HAS A *BIGGER* JOB TO DO! THE *FIXER* AND *MENTALLO* KNOW THAT ONLY THE *MOST DEADLY THREAT* CAN STOP US FROM COUNTER-ATTACKING!

MY *NEUTRALIZER* WILL HAVE TO *DEAL* WITH THAT THREAT--SOONER OR LATER!

EVERYTHING'S *SET!* TAKE ME TO THE *ESP* DIVISION--*ON THE DOUBLE!*

YES, SIR!

AND, IN THE SILENT CHAMBER WHERE VOLUNTEER *EXTRA-SENSORY PERCEPTIVES* SIT, TRYING TO CONTACT FURY BY MEANS OF THE POWERFUL *BRAINWAVE STIMULATOR*, AN ATMOSPHERE OF DEEP *GLOOM* FILLS THE CONTROL BOOTH--!

IT'S *HOPELESS!* *MENTALLO* AND THE *FIXER* MUST EACH BE WEARING SOME SORT OF *SCRAMBLE HELMETS!*

THE SCREEN ON WHICH WE SHOULD BE RECEIVING MENTAL IMAGES IS STILL A *BLANK!* UNTIL WE CAN MAKE CONTACT, THERE'S NO WAY TO FIGHT THEM *MENTALLY!*

ANY *RESULTS* YET?? *SPEAK UP*, MAN! FURY IS A PRISONER! *MENTALLO* AND THE *FIXER* HAVE BROKEN THRU ALL OUR DEFENSES! EVERY SECOND IS *VITAL!*

*NEGATIVE*, MR. STARK! NO IMAGES WHATSOEVER! ONLY MENTAL IMPRESSIONS OF SOME UNSPEAKABLE PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR OUR *DESTRUCTION!*

SLAM!

I *KNEW* IT! THEY'D *HAVE* TO SHOW THEIR POWER IN SOME DRAMATIC WAY! IF ONLY MY NEUTRALIZER CAN--*OHHHHHHN--!*

[redacted], STARK!! WHAT'S *WRONG?* WHAT *IS* IT, SIR?

NOTHING! JUST--OVER-TIRED! HAVEN'T HAD TIME--TO REST--SINCE THIS STARTED--!

I'M A *DOCTOR!* YOU CAN'T FOOL *ME!* IT'S *MORE* THAN EXERTION! IT'S YOUR *HEART!* MR. STARK--!

*NO!* I'LL BE ALL RIGHT! I'VE HAD THIS *BEFORE!* STAY BACK! LET ME BE! AND--NOT A WORD OF THIS--TO *ANYONE!* THAT'S AN *ORDER!*

BUT NOW, BACK TO *MENTALLO* AND THE *FIXER*...

EVEN *YOU* COULD NOT HAVE CREATED A MINIATURE *H-BOMB* BY YOURSELF, FIXER!

HAVE I NOT *TOLD* YOU, MENTALLO? I HAVE RECEIVED MUCH EQUIPMENT FROM --*THEM!*

*THEM!!* SOME DAY I SHALL LEARN WHOM YOU ARE *REFERRING* TO!

I WOULDN'T *ADVISE* IT! IT MIGHT COST YOU YOUR *LIFE!*

YOU *MUST* OBEY US WHILE YOU WEAR THAT MASK, FURY! NOW--- *SIT IN THIS CHAIR!*

A *PERFECT* PLAN! UTTERLY FOOLPROOF, AND MASTERFUL IN ITS SIMPLICITY!

CLASP YOUR HANDS AROUND THE BOMB! THAT'S IT! NOW-- *DON'T MOVE!*

PLACE THE *BRACKETS* ON HIM!

I NEED NO URGING FROM *YOU*, MENTALLO! I HAVE *CREATED* THIS ENTIRE DEVICE!

BUT, THE *IDEA* WAS *MINE!* THE *BRAIN* IS MINE! NEVER *FORGET* THAT FOR A MOMENT!

IT IS SAFE TO REMOVE FURY'S *MASK* NOW!

*THERE!* SURELY YOU WOULD NOT BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO DO *ANYTHING* THAT WOULD DETONATE THE *H-BOMB!*

SUCH AN "*ACCIDENT*" WOULD DESTROY YOU--AND HALF OF THIS CITY *WITH* YOU!

DON'T JUST *SIT* THERE, FURY! *SAY* SOMETHING!

SURE, I'LL SAY SOMETHIN'! GIMME A *STOGIE*! THEY'RE IN MY DESK DRAWER!

YOU ASK FOR A CIGAR --AT A TIME LIKE *THIS*?!!

YOU'RE A COOL ONE, COLONEL! BUT IT WILL DO NO HARM TO OBLIGE!

I CAN MENTALLY SENSE THAT NEITHER YOUR DESK DRAWER NOR YOUR CIGAR IS *booby-TRAPPED*!

YA DON'T SAY!

I KNOW BETTER'N TO TRY TO FOOL A HOT-SHOT LIKE *YOU*!

IT IS *STRANGE* WHAT A MAN WILL THINK OF IN MOMENTS OF STRESS! NOW I CAN SENSE A *TUNE* RUNNING THRU YOUR MIND!

WADDAYA KNOW! I'M JUST A REGULAR *LAWRENCE WELK*!

BUT, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE *ESP* SECTION OF *SHIELD*--

THE LULL IS *OVER*! THE EMPTINESS HAS ENDED! WE'RE *RECEIVING* SOMETHING!

WE'VE MADE *CONTACT*!

*LOOK*! THE *ESP* SENSITIVES ARE VISIBLY *AGITATED*! SOMETHING IS COMING *THRU*! WATCH THE *VISI-SCREEN*!

IT'S THE OPENING LYRICS OF A WORLD WAR I *WAR SONG*--!

IT'S *FURY*! THE SIGNAL WE'VE BEEN *WAITING* FOR! NOW WE CAN *MOVE*!

JOHNNY, GET YOUR GUN! GET YOUR GUN! GET GOING ON THE RUN! ON THE RUN!

BUT--HE'S STILL A CAPTIVE OF *MENTALLO* AND THE *FIXER*! WHAT CAN YOU *DO*?

JUST WAIT AND *SEE*, DOCTOR! DON'T FORGET-- THIS IS STILL *SHIELD*-- NOT SOME LOCAL STREET-CORNER GANG!

*ATTENTION, ACCOUT FORCE*! EXECUTE *PLAN D*!

SECONDS LATER, TWO HARD-BITTEN AGENTS, WEARING THE PRESCRIBED SHIELD *SCRAMBLE HELMETS*, STEAL TOWARDS THE WALL BEHIND WHICH *NICK FURY* IS IMPRISONED--!

BE SURE YOUR *SAFETY LATCH* IS SWITCHED OFF, PAL!

MISTER, THIS GUN DOESN'T EVEN *HAVE* A SAFETY!

6

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

# SHOP BY MAIL

## STAMPS

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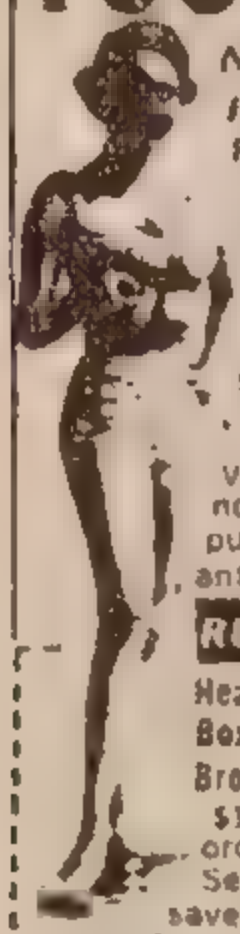

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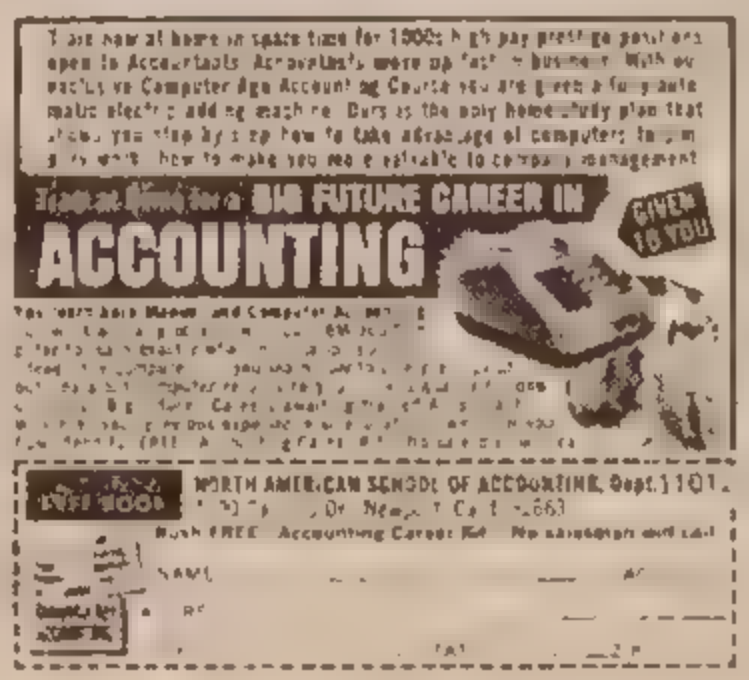


NORTH AMERICAN SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTING, Dept. 1101

AS THE TWO CAREFULLY-TRAINED SHIELD SNIPERS REACH THEIR CONCEALED DESTINATION, A NARROW SLOT IN THE WALL SLIDES OPEN, AND TWO SHOTS ARE FIRED AS ONE--!

WOW!

THWA-BOK!

OUR GAMBLE PAID OFF! MENTALLO WAS SO CONVINCED THEY HAD WON, THAT HE DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO MENTALLY PROBE THE AREA FOR A NEW ATTACK!

AND, A FRACTION OF A MICROSECOND LATER, BEFORE EITHER MAN CAN MAKE A MOVE, THE TWO STRANGE CAPSULES FIRED BY THE DESPERATE AGENTS REACH THEIR TARGETS...!

KHAK!

WHA--???

THEY DID IT!

SPITT!

UHHHH--!

MY HEAD! MY HEAD!

MOANIN' 'N GROANIN' WON'T HELP YA! THAT LIQUID'LL MAKE YER HELMETS GIT HOTTER EVERY SECOND!

GOT TO TAKE IT OFF! CAN'T BEAR THE HEAT! CAN'T BEAR IT!

THAT'S THE IDEA, GENTS!

ESP DIVISION! THIS IS FURY THINKIN' AT YA! YA BETTER READ ME--AND FAST! STRIKE NOW! THIS BOMB AINT NO DO-IT-YERSELF TABLE LAMP!

EVERYTHIN' DEPENDS ON THEM CATCHIN' MY THOUGHT! IF THEY DON'T, WE'RE ALL KAPUT!

BUT, FURY LEARNS WITH STARTLING, MIND-STAGGERING SUDDENNESS THAT HIS THOUGHT WAS BEEN RECEIVED, AS SHIELD STRIKES BACK--!

MENTALLO!! WHAT'S HAPPENIN' TO US?? THE ACHE IN MY HEAD--DEEP INSIDE MY BRAIN--I CAN'T STAND IT!

WE'RE BEING HIT--BOMBARDED--BY MENTAL WAVES OF SHEER HATRED!

WITH OUR HELMETS OFF, WE'VE NO DEFENSE AGAINST AN ESP ATTACK!

THERE'S NO WAY TO SINGLE THEM OUT! I'M GETTIN' HIT TOO! BUT I GOTTA TAKE IT! NO MATTER WHAT--I GOTTA TAKE IT!

=UHHHH!= IT--IT'S WORSE FOR ME--THAN FOR ANYONE! MY BRAIN--MY MIND-READING POWERS--MAKE ME MANY TIMES MORE SENSITIVE--MORE RECEPTIVE!! STOP! STOP!! THEY HAVE TO STOP!

RUBY! LISTEN TO ME! YOU'RE IN MENTAL CONTACT WITH SHIELD! TELL THEM TO CALL OFF THEIR ATTACK! YOU CAN DO IT! YOU MUST--!

WHAT FOR! THIS IS THE MOST FUN I HAD SINCE I CAUGHT MY PAW IN A MEAT SLICER!

BUT--IF YA INSIST ON BEIN' A KILLJOY--I-I'LL TELL 'EM TO LAY OFF! ALL YA GOTTA DO IS--SURRENDER!

NO! NOT NOW! NOT WHEN VICTORY WAS JUST IN OUR GRASP! NOT WHILE YOU'RE STILL TIED TO THAT H-BOMB!

SUIT YERSELF, BUTTERBALL! BUT--REMEMBER--I'M EXPENDABLE! NO ONE'S GONNA GIT OFF YER BACKS ON ACCOUNTA ME! AND IF I DIE--I'LL PROBABLY WIN ME A MEDAL!

BUT--WHAT ARE YOU HOLDIN' OUT FOR?? IT'S YOU WHO'LL GIT--THE SHORT END OF THE STICK--!

AND, AT THAT MOMENT, TONY STARK BRINGS HIS FANTASTIC NEW NEUTRALIZER INTO ACTION AS HIS SPECIAL TASK FORCE SPEEDS TOWARDS SHIELD CONTROL--!

PLANNING DIVISION TO STARK! ALL SYSTEMS ACTIVATED! THE COMMAND IS YOURS!

READY AT LAST!

"C" SQUAD--TAKE YOUR POSITIONS! "G" SQUAD--SPREAD OUT! PREPARE FOR COVERING ACTION!

EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON STARK'S NEW GIZMO! IF IT DOESN'T WORK--!

FORGET IT, MISTER! IF STARK MADE IT--IT'LL WORK!

I'VE FOUND WHAT I NEED ON THE RADAR! PREPARE TO FIRE! NOBODY MOVE! NOBODY SPEAK! IT'S FOUR SECONDS TILL DETONATION! THREE SECONDS--!

TWO SECONDS! ONE SECOND! NEUTRALIZER ACTIVATED!!

ZAP!

HEADS UP! THIS IS IT!

CAN'T HOLD ON-- MUCH LONGER! GUNS--IN CORNER--! GOT TO REACH THEM! ONLY CHANCE-- GET GUNS--!

STARK *DID* IT! HIS NEUTRALIZER IS HITTIN' THE BOMB--RIGHT THRU THE WHOLE BLASTED *WALL!* IF I CAN ONLY HANG ON--LONG ENOUGH--!

ZZZZZZ

*FIXER!* WE--WE *MUST* SURRENDER! PAIN--IS TOO MUCH--!

*QUIET,* YOU SNIVELLING COWARD! THE MASTERFUL *MENTALLO!* *BAN!* SOME HELP *YOU* TURNED OUT TO BE! HERE-- TAKE A *RIFLE!*

SHIELD MANAGED TO SOMEHOW DEMOLISH OUR *BOMB!* OUR ACE IN THE HOLE IS GONE! WE'VE GOTTA *BLAST* OUR WAY OUT OF HERE!

ALL RIGHT! I-I'LL FIGHT! *ANY-THING!* ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN JUST *SITTING* HERE--WITH THOSE THOUGHTS-- THOSE POWERFUL *THOUGHTS* POUNDING IN MY HEAD!

THE BOMB'S MELTIN' AWAY! *SHIELD IS SAFE!* NOW-- IT DON'T MATTER *WHAT* HAPPENS-- TO *ME....!*

*QUICK!* AIM YOUR ROCKET RIFLE AT THE SAME SPOT AS MINE! IF WE HIT AT THE SAME INSTANT, OUR COMBINED POWER WILL SHATTER THE WALL!

YOU LONG-WINDED *FOOL!* YOU *TALK* TOO MUCH! I CAN MENTALLY *SENSE* YOUR PURPOSE! THE PAIN IS KILLING ME! FIRE! *FIRE!*

*BOOM!*

WE *DID* IT! WE'RE *FREE!* NOW *RUN!* *RUN! RUN!*

BUT--WE CAN'T ESCAPE THE *MENTAL ONSLAUGHT!* IT FOLLOWS *EVERYWHERE!*

*WHOOM! WHOOM!*

THERE ARE NO *SHIELD* MEN IN SIGHT! THEY'RE *AFRAID* OF US! THEY KNOW THEY CAN'T *STOP* US!

BUT, ALAS, OUR TWO FRANTIC FRIENDS MAY JUST BE DUE FOR A SOMEWHAT RUDE AWAKENING--!

EVERYTHING'S *SET!* THEY'RE HEADING THIS WAY, AS PLANNED! KEEP YOUR HELMETS ON, AND WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL!

NOBODY MOVES TILL THE *METRONOME UNIT* DRAWS THEIR FIRE!

AND, IT'S *GOIN'* INTO ACTION *NOW--!*

THHANNG!

PLOW INTO 'EM, BILL! OUR METRONOME PENDULUMS ARE DRAWING THEIR FIRE ALL OVER THE PLACE, CONFUSING THEM!

WHIMMM!

PEEEEOOOOO

LOOK! COMING AT US! WHAT IN THE NAME OF SANITY ARE THEY??

THOSE MOVING DISCS--!! CAN'T TELL WHAT TO FIRE AT!

PEEEOOOOO

I DUNNO HOW STARK MANAGES TO DREAM THESE GADGETS UP, BUT I HOPE FOR OUR SAKE THAT HE NEVER STOPS!

OKAY! EVERYTHING'S SET! NOW'S OUR CHANCE! PLOW INTO 'EM!!!

KEEP FIRIN'! DON'T STOP FOR NUTHIN'! MOVE, YA BLASTED MUGWUMPS--MOVE!

LOOK OUT FOR THE FIXER'S ROCKET GUN! HE'S GONNA--!

AT EASE, SOLDIER! YOU AINT TALKIN' TO NO CHICKEN-SCRATCHIN' TENDERFOOT!

OOOOFF--!

PU-KOW!

THE REST O' YOU GUYS-- GRAB MENTALLO!

WE HAD ALMOST BEATEN YOU-- ALMOST DEFEATED ALL OF SHIELD! HOW DID YOU--?

YA CAN READ ALL ABOUT IT IN THE PAPER TOMORRA, SONNY BOY! IT'LL GIVE YA SOMETHIN' TO DO IN THE POKEY!

THAT WRAPS IT UP, GUYS!

BOK!

UHNNNH!

AWRIGHT, BIG BRAIN! TALK! WHERE'S FURY? OR DO I HAVETA BEAT IT OUTTA YA?

NO! NO! I'LL TELL-- I'LL DO ANY-THING--!

--IF ONLY THE PAIN WOULD STOP! IF ONLY MY HEAD WOULD STOP ACHING SO!

EXACTLY FIVE SECONDS LATER...

NICK! NICK! ARE YA OKAY, COLONEL? SAY SOMETHIN', NICK--!

DID WE--DID WE GET HERE--TOO LATE??

NO! HE'S BREATHIN'! I CAN SEE 'IM BREATHE! HE'S STILL ALIVE!

NICK! SNAP OUT OF IT! THIS IS DUM DUM! C'MON, COLONEL--!

AWRIGHT! AWRIGHT! QUIT SLOBBERIN' OVER ME, YA OLD WALRUS! I'M OKAY--!

I KNEW IT, NICK! I KNEW YER TOO BLAMED ORNERY TO CASH IN!

BUT, YA STILL LOOK KINDA WOOZY, NICK! WE BETTER HEAD FOR THE INFIRMARY--!

YOU LOOKIN' FER A FAT LIP, MISTER? STAND OFF!

NO ONE'S GOIN' TO THE INFIRMARY--UNLESS I FIND THE CRUMB WHO CRUSHED ONE O' MY BEST CHEROOTS!!

WHO TOLD YOU GUYS THIS IS PLAYTIME?? YER STILL AGENTS OF SHIELD, HEAR? SNAP TO IT! GIT THEM SHOULDERS BACK! I DON'T WANNA HEAR AN EYEBALL MOVE!

AHHH! THAT'S LIKE MUSIC TO OUR EARS! GLAD TA HAVE YA BACK ABOARD, COLONEL!

THE FIXER AND MENTALLO ARE IN CUSTODY NOW! THE CAPER'S OVER!

I WOULDN'T WANT THIS TA GIT AROUND, DUM DUM! BUT YOU 'N YER CAMPFIRE BOYS DID OKAY! I'M PROUD OF YA ALL!

WE TRY TA EARN OUR PAY, COLONEL! ANYWAY--NOW WHO'S SLOBBERIN'??!

AND, IN THE SEALED ROOM WHICH HOUSES THE AMAZING BRAINWAVE STIMULATOR--!

IT LOOKS LIKE ALL OUR TRAINING, ALL OUR PREPARATION, PAID OFF AT LAST!

WHAT AN ORDEAL! I THOUGHT IT WOULD NEVER END!

IT'S OVER! MENTALLO WILL NEVER MENACE US AGAIN! THE TRUMP CARD WAS OURS!

WHILE, BACK AT SHIELD'S TOP-LEVEL COMMAND SECTION, WE FIND...

YA LOOK KINDA *PALE*, STARK! ARE YA *FEELIN'* OKAY?

I, EH, HAD A ROUGH FEW MINUTES BEFORE, FURY! BUT EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW!

HOWEVER, I'M *STILL* CONCERNED ABOUT *MENTALLO*! WE NEVER KNOW WHEN HIS MIND-READING TALENT WILL THREATEN US *AGAIN*!

YOU NEED HAVE NO FEAR ON THAT SCORE, MR. STARK! I'VE JUST FINISHED *EXAMINING* HIM! THE MENTAL ATTACK HE JUST EXPERIENCED HAS *WIPED OUT* HIS POWERS!

HIS THREAT IS ENDED--FOREVER!

AND NOW, COLONEL, IT'S TIME TO REMOVE THE MINIATURIZED *MENTAL TRANSMITTER* WHICH ENABLED YOU TO CONTACT THE *ESP* DIVISION AT THE PROPER MOMENT!

YEAH! AND *NEXT* TIME STARK DREAMS UP A GIZMO LIKE THAT, I HOPE IT'LL BE ONE THAT DON'T *TICKLE* SO MUCH!

I HEARD OF GUYS BEIN' WIRED FER SOUND, BUT *THIS* IS *RIDICULOUS*!

FURY, YOU DID A *GREAT* JOB! ALL OF SHIELD IS *PROUD* OF YOU!

KNOCK IT OFF, MISTER! I AINT THE TYPE FER BLUBBERIN' SPEECHES!

THE *F'IXER* 'N *MENTALLO* STILL CAME TOO CLOSE FER COMFORT! I DON'T *LIKE* IT!

WE GOTTA DO *BETTER* NEXT TIME, IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN THIS NUTTY SCIENCE-FICTION NIGHTMARE WORLD WE'RE LIVIN' IN!

AND, EVEN AS FURY SPEAKS, A SPEEDY JET TAKES OFF FROM SHIELD'S ORBITING HQ ON A MISSION OF EXTREME URGENCY--

WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF THEM *MAKING* IT, MAJOR?

I'D RATHER NOT *THINK* ABOUT THAT, SIR!

SUDDENLY, LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES AFTER THE PLANE'S DEPARTURE, A LARGE, EGG-LIKE OBJECT SEEMS TO DROP FROM THE SKY--

BOB! BEHIND US! WHAT'S *THAT*??

THE STARTLED CREW BARELY HAVE TIME TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY EJECTION APPARATUS, BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES--!

BOOM!

NEXT THE DRUID!

# REMEMBER WHEN...


STRANGE TALES
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
IND
NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢
144 MAY
IF YOU THINK DR. STRANGE IS THE ONLY MYSTIC IN THIS MAG, WAIT'LL YOU SEE...
"THE DAY OF THE DRUID!"
YOU DECIDED NEVER TO THUMB A RIDE WITH THE MAN FROM SHIELD?
SEE YA NEXT ISH!!

# CEREBRAL COMMENTS AND COGENT CRITIQUES, CAPRICIOUSLY CREATED WITH CARE AND CANDOR!

**ITEM!** It's common knowledge by now that our leader, SMILIN' STAN, entered the comic-book field at the age of seventeen, and became an editor shortly thereafter. (Of course, that was long ago, during the first Golden Age of Comics. Today, the bearded one, still going strong, seems to be our answer to Methuselah!) Anyway, what we're leading up to is — young-at-heart Marvel has always been youth-oriented, and never more so than today. Just look at the evidence. Dubious One, RASCALLY ROY THOMAS, Stan's award winning associate editor and rollickin' writer-in-residence, after years of Bullpen bondage, is still comfortably under the age of thirty! AMIABLE ALLYN BRODSKY, our erudite editorial aide-de-camp, has yet to reach the ripe old age of twenty-six! The same goes for MARVELOUS MIMI GOLD, JOLLY JIMMY PETTY, and HECTIC HOLLY RESNICOFF — sensational staffers all! And now, a handful of new names for you to take hold of, toy with, and treasure forever. First, meet MERRY GERRY CONWAY, pushin' towards twenty, who's already got a couple of science-fiction paperback sales under his belt and who cut his artistic eyeteeth at Marvel scripting mystery yarns and KA-ZAR's capers. Gerry will be writing DAREDEVIL, and IRON MAN as well, from here on in — and, despite what the competition may say, it isn't true that he still pays half-fare on the subway! And how about LIVELY LENNIE WEIN, BASHFUL BARRY SMITH, RIGHTEOUS RICHIE BUCKLER, and MADCAP MIKE FRIEDRICH — all well under twenty-five, and all appearing in the pandemonious pages of mighty Marvel with ever-increasing frequency! Of course, it's not just because we're hooked on youngsters — sly ol' Stan figures that if ever we get bored with turning out comic-mags, we can always convert to running a *nursery*!

**ITEM!** Lest you think that grey hairs turn us off, it's only fair to mention that many of Marveldom's all-time greats — who are turning out the finest, most relevant strips of all today — are well on the other side of thirty-five! Want proof? Well, ever hear of these guys —? a fella named LEE! A ROMITA ring a-ding! A couple of BUSCEMA brothers! A gent called COLAN! And a few other assorted artistic titans known as SINNOTT, EVERETT, MOONEY, MORTELLARO, HECK, KANE, AYERS, TUSKA, WOOD, SHORES, and SEVERIN! (By that last we mean JOHN S. of course, nobody in the blushin' Bullpen would ever suggest that MIRTHFUL MARIE is anything but ageless!) And while we're at it, let's not forget our "twilight-zone" whiz-kids who've kinda outgrown their beanie caps, though they're still young enough for stickball. In other words, closing in on thirty (from one side or the other), we've got HAPPY HERBIE TRIMPE, STURDY STU SCHWARTZBERG, TERRIFIC TOMMY PALMER, JUMBO JOHNNY VERPOORTEN, DAPPER DANNY ADKINS, LAUGHIN' LARRY LIEBER, and NEFARIOUS NEAL ADAMS! Yessir, when it comes to talent, you can throw the calendar out the window — at least, so it seems to the ageless wonders at 625 Madison!

**ITEM!** Wait'll you see the magic that TOM PALMER's inking lends to GENE COLAN's pencil work on this month's CAPTAIN AMERICA! And then, next month, prepare for the most electrifying change-over of all, as WILD BILL EVERETT embellishes Gene's artwork — giving Cap and the fighting Falcon a luster and an excitement such as they've never had before!

**ITEM!** Just wanna tip our hat in thanks to TITANIC TONY MORTELLARO for the tremendous job he did in pinch-hitting as Production Chief while J. J. VERPOORTEN was on vacation. (No, Irving, J. J. doesn't stand for Jolly Jonah Jameson! It's Jumbo Johnny! Now stand in the corner!) By the way, remember FABULOUS FLO STEINBERG, our gone but-not-forgotten Gal Friday? Well, ol' J. J. ran into her in Europe, where she too was vacationing, and they both had a blast swapping stories about our mixed-up mags and the madmen who make them tick!

**ITEM!** Speaking of vacations, who do you think RASCALLY ROY and his lovely JEAN bumped into while sojourning in merrie old England? That's right, none other than CONAN THE BARBARIAN's peerless penciller, BASHFUL BARRY SMITH, who's eagerly counting the days till he embarks for the States as a permanent resident, where we're hoping he'll be able to turn out twice as many action-packed pages of CONAN and other thrillers as ever before! And, did we tell you about the pub Roy visited in Picadilly Circus? It's called the Duke of Argyll, and it's decorated inside and out with — you guessed it — our own Marvel heroes and villains! Even the ceiling has our high-flying SILVER SURFER gazing soulfully down at you, wistfully dreaming, no doubt, of the glory and grandeur that was!

**ITEM!** One answer to the question of why JIM STERANKO has been absent from our pages recently is the fact that he's been hard at work writing his monumental HISTORY OF THE COMICS. Stan no sooner read the first copy than he grabbed the phone to congratulate the jaunty one on the cataclysmic job he'd done. (And, since Jim lives in Pennsylvania, and we all know how stingy Smiley is, you can imagine how our leader must have liked it!) Anyway, just to complete the age table we mentioned earlier, Jim is presently just on the shady side of thirty — and we've been wondering whether to congratulate him, sympathize with him, or simply adopt him!

## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Every few months (mainly when I can't think of anything else to write!), I try to spell out the somewhat elusive, ephemeral Marvel philosophy. Well, just the other day, one of the largest magazine publishers in Japan, who has been presenting our own SPIDER-MAN to a wildly enthusiastic Japanese audience, requested a brief resume of our philosophy for his readers. It occurred to us that you might enjoy reading this updated version. And so —

"Our Marvel sagas originate in the United States — but, in a true sense, they belong to the world. Our theme is justice, tempered by tolerance, honed by humor, and leavened with love. We support people everywhere — people striving to improve themselves and their lives — people working and praying for a better world, a world without war. Our heroes are your heroes — our villains your villains — our problems your problems, as are our triumphs and defeats. We espouse no cause save the cause of freedom — no philosophy save the brotherhood of man. Our purpose is to entertain — to take the world as it is and show it as it might be — as it could be — and perhaps, as it should be. We hope to please you, excite you, broaden the horizons of your imagination, and appeal to your sense of wonder. And so, we promise you, our friends across the sea, that we will never relax our efforts to provide the very finest stories and artwork — to bring you the most original, most imaginative, and most thought-provoking adventures of all! Though we are separated by a vast ocean, we are linked together by a love of fantasy, by a taste for the unusual, and by the mutual respect that men of good will have for each other no matter what tongue they speak, no matter where they may live. I welcome you to the wonderful world of Marvel — long may we dwell here together!"

Excelsior!

Stan

# NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION!

## "THE DAY OF THE DRUID!"

AT A STRANGE AND SECRET SANCTUM, A FORBIDDEN CEREMONY TAKES PLACE AMIDST THE ANCIENT AND EVIL TRAPPINGS OF THE MYSTERIOUS *DRUIDS!* FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MODERN HISTORY, YOU ARE ACTUALLY WITNESSING AN EERIE *WITCHES' SABBATH...!*

LET THE IMAGE OF OUR GREATEST *ENEMY* NOW APPEAR! THE *DRUID* SO COMMANDS!

STAN LEE • WRITER
JACK KIRBY • DESIGNER
H.PURCELL • PENCILLER
M.DEMEO • INKER
SAM ROSEN • LETTERER

WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR LOATHE IT, YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT ONE THING... THIS THRILLER IS *DIFFERENT..!*

DEATH TO SHIELD!! DEATH TO FURY, ITS ACCURSED LEADER! SO SHALL IT BE!

NO, YOU ARE NOT WITNESSING RITES OF MAGIC... AT LEAST, NOT THE MAGIC OF YORE! THIS IS A FAR MORE POTENT, FAR MORE DEADLY TYPE OF MAGIC ...MYSTIC RITES COMBINED WITH MODERN, SINISTER SCIENCE!

NOW LET THE IMAGES CEASE!

THE DRUID SO COMMANDS!

IT IS TIME TO REMOVE THE TRAPPINGS!

THAT MEANS THE DRUID IS READY TO STRIKE!

LET NO ONE MOVE! LET NO VOICE SAVE MINE BE HEARD! THE MOMENT HAS COME!

TOO LONG HAVE WE REMAINED HIDDEN FROM THE SIGHT OF MEN! AT LAST THE WORLD MUST FEEL THE POWER OF THE DRUIDS!

STAND BACK! LET NO ONE WAVER! THIS IS OUR HOUR OF DESTINY!

THOSE WHO SERVE BELOW... HEAR THE WORDS OF THE DRUID! BRING YOU FORTH THE EGG OF SATAN!!

WHHIRRRR!

NOW, FLY, THING OF EVIL! NOTHING SHALL KEEP YOU FROM YOUR GOAL! WHEREVER HE MAY BE, YOU WILL FIND COLONEL FURY... AND THEN DESTROY HIM!

WE HAVE SET IN MOTION FORCES WHICH NO MAN MAY TURN ASIDE!

THE DAY OF THE DRUID IS HERE!

BUT NOW, OUR SCENE CHANGES, AS WE VISIT A *DISASTER SCENE!* SCANT MOMENTS BEFORE, ANOTHER "SATAN'S EGG"... BEING TESTED BY THE DRUID... HAD ATTACKED AND DESTROYED A HIGH-FLYING ATOMIC AIRCRAFT...!

*CLEAR THE AREA!!* IF THE PLANE'S *REACTOR* BLOWS, IT'LL BE *CURTAINS* FOR US!

WE'RE *TOO LATE... NOTHING* CAN STOP THOSE FLAMES *NOW!*

*WAIT!!* WE *CAN'T* RUN FOR COVER NOW! *FURY'S* STILL INSIDE THE PLANE... TRYIN' TO *SHUT OFF* THE REACTOR!

BUT THERE'S NOTHING *WE* CAN DO TO HELP, DUGAN! LET'S *GO!*

*NO!* I AIN'T DESERTIN' 'IM *NOW!* NOT AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! *LEGGO...* I'M GOIN' IN *AFTER* 'IM!

WE'D *ALL* GO IN, IF WE *COULD!* BUT NONE OF US WOULD LAST A *MINUTE!* WE'VE ONLY *ONE* PROTECTIVE SUIT.. AND FURY'S *WEARING* IT!

BUT HE AIN'T GOT A *CHANCE* IN THERE! LEMME *GO,* BLAST YER HIDES!

AND, INSIDE THE FLAMING STEEL INFERNO, WE FIND...

SMOKE'S TOO *THICK!!* CAN'T SEE WHAT I'M DOIN'...!

BUT I CAN'T QUIT *NOW!* THERE'S A NEW-TYPE *REACTOR* INSIDE... THE FLY BOYS *NEED* IT!

I'VE *GOTTA* REACH IT... IN THE NEXT FEW *SECONDS!*

BUT THEN, A LOOSE STEEL BEAM SUDDENLY DROPS UPON THE DESPERATE AGENT...

*THUMP!*

*UNHHH!* MY *HEAD..!*

OF ALL THE CRUMMY LUCK... EVERYTHIN' SPINNIN' AROUND... GITTIN' *DIZZY...* DIZZY...!

BUT, I *CAN'T* BLACK OUT!! I *CAN'T!* GOTTA GIT TO THE *REACTOR!*

GOTTA *SHUT IT OFF...* THEN.. IT DON'T MATTER... *WHAT* HAPPENS... TO ME..!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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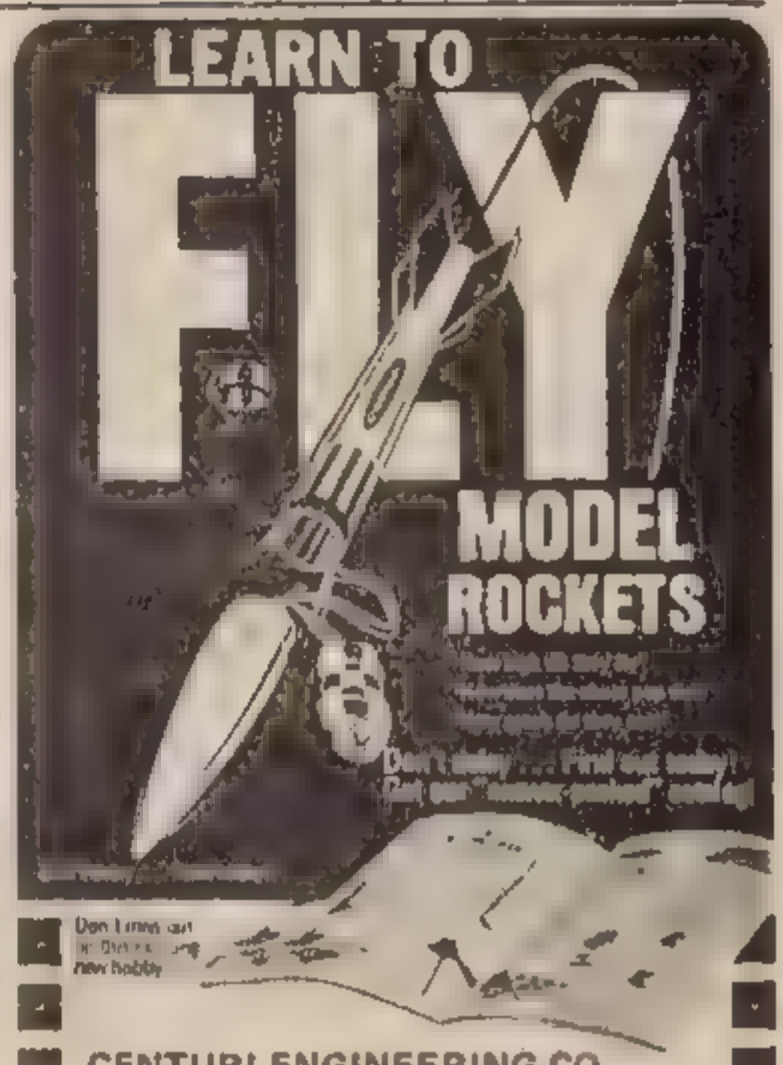


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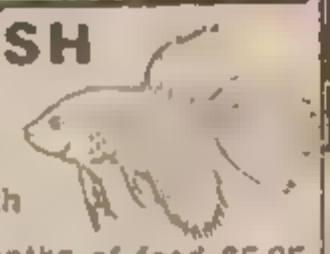

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THE WAY I GOT IT FIGGERED... IT'LL *BLOW*... IN ABOUT *FIFTEEN SECONDS..!*

*HANG ON, FURY!* KEEP MOVIN', YA THICK-HEADED GORILLA... KEEP *MOVIN'!!*

THIRTEEN SECONDS... TWELVE SECONDS...

IT'S GOTTA BE SOMEWHERE UP AHEAD..!

IF I CAN JUST GIT TO MY *FEET...*

OKAY... SO NOW I'M *STANDING!* BUT THAT AIN'T *ENOUGH..!*

TEN SECONDS TO GO... *NINE* SECONDS..!

I *FOUND* IT!! THE DOOR TO THE *REACTOR ROOM!!* IF I CAN JUST GIT IT *OPEN!!*

*NO GOOD!* IT'S *JAMMED!* AND I AIN'T GOT TIME TO GO FIND ME A *LOCK-SMITH!*

THUD!

ONLY ABOUT *SEVEN SECONDS* TO GO!!

STAY *WITH* IT, FURY! DON'T QUIT *NOW!* GIT YERSELF A *CROW-BAR... FAST!*

RRRAK!

IF I CAN USE THIS HUNKA STEEL LIKE A *LEVER*, MEBBE I CAN *FORCE* THE DOOR!!

CAN'T BE MORE'N *FIVE SECONDS* LEFT--!

*MOVE,* FURY!! FASTER, BLAST IT... *FASTER!!*

CLAKK!

I *GOT 'ER!!*

*THREE* SECONDS TO GO!! THIS IS THE *PAY-OFF!!*

WHUMP!

AND, JUST OUTSIDE THE DOOMED PLANE ...

LET'S GO, DUGAN! WE'VE ONLY SECONDS TO GET INSIDE THE MOBILE FALLOUT SHELTER!

THEN CLAM UP'N TAKE OFF! ME, I'M WAITIN' FER FURY OUT HERE... IN CASE HE NEEDS ME!

HURRY, YOU GUYS! WE'VE GOTTA SEAL THE DOOR!

IT WON'T DO THE COLONEL ANY GOOD FOR US TO GET BLOWN UP WITH HIM!

DUM DUM WON'T BUDGE! WE DID ALL WE COULD... LOCK 'ER UP!

TWO SECONDS..!

WHUMP!

NICK BUDDY... IF YER EVER COMIN' OUT, IT'S GOTTA BE NOW!

ONE SECOND..!!!

THIS IS IT..!

LOOK ALIVE, YA LANTERN-JAWED, BUG-EYED, MULE-HEADED CREEP! THIS AIN'T NO TIME TA BE CROONIN' LULLABIES TO YERSELF!

I'M DEAD! AND I LANDED IN THE WRONG PLACE! 'CAUSE FURY'S VOICE WOULD NEVER BE UP ABOVE!

YOU AIN'T DEAD, YA OLD WALRUS... 'CEPTIN' BETWEEN YER BIG FAT EARS!

NICKIE BOY!! YA DID IT! I KNEW YA WUZ TOO ORNERY TA DIE!

LEGGO, BLAST YA! GIT YER PAWS OFFA ME BEFORE I PULVERIZE YA!

IT'S THE COLONEL! HE MADE IT!

MINUTES LATER, AT ONE OF THE MANY *SHIELD* COASTAL DEFENSE COMMAND ROOMS WHICH DOT OUR SHORES ...

THERE'S NO *MISTAKING* IT! IT'S THE SAME TYPE OF "*EGG*" THAT CAUSED THE BOMBER TO CRASH!

IT'S APPROACHING THE AREA WHERE *COLONEL FURY* WAS LAST REPORTED! COULD BE *COINCIDENCE*, BUT...

OUR *JETS* HAVE SIGHTED IT! THEY'RE GIVING CHASE...!

*BLUE LEADER* TO *NAVAJO*! GIVE ESTIMATED *SPEED* OF U.F.O.! OVER!

THE WAY IT'S OUTDISTANCING *US*, SKIPPER, IT'S *GOTTA* BE DOIN' AT LEAST 3,000! WE HAVEN'T A *PRAYER* OF CATCHIN' IT!

*MAN!* DIDJA SEE THAT *MANEUVER*?!!

AS IF ITS *SPEED* ISN'T ENOUGH, IT PLUMMETED BELOW TREE-TOP LEVEL WHERE WE CAN'T FOLLOW!

I GET THE FEELING IT'S NOT JUST TRYING TO DODGE *US*! IF YOU ASK *ME*, IT'S *AFTER* SOMETHING!

AND, AFTER SOMETHING IT *IS*, AS THE SWIFT, SILENT STALKER LOCATES A CERTAIN WINDING SUBURBAN ROAD...

SAY, NICK, WADDAYA THINK OF THAT REPORT ABOUT A FLYIN' *EGG* CLOBBERIN' OUR BOMBER?

*YOUR* GUESS IS AS GOOD AS *MINE*, DUM DUM!

*HEY!* TAKE IT *EASY*, COLONEL! YER DRIVIN' THIS CRATE LIKE THERE'S NO TOMORRA!

WHEN I NEED DRIVIN' LESSONS FROM *YOU*, I'LL LETCHA KNOW! TAKE A SQUINT OUTTA THE *REAR WINDOW*, MISTER!

IT'S ANOTHER ONE OF THEM *EGGS*!! BUT... *THIS* TIME IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S AFTER *US*!

ZAT *SO*?? WHATEVER GAVE YA *THAT* IDEA?!

NOW, *HANG ON*, DUM DUM! WE GOT US A HEAP'A *DRIVIN'* TO DO!

HEY, NICK!! DIDJA SEE THAT?!

SURE! YA DIDN'T THINK IT WUZ TAILIN' US JUST TA KEEP US FROM GITTIN' LONELY, DIDJA?

RRRRRRRRR...

RRRR R

RRRR

WHROOOSH!

OKAY IT HAD ITS INNING! NOW IT'S OUR TURN!

WHAT'N SAM HILL CAN WE DO AGAINST A THING LIKE THAT?!

I WUZ HOPIN' YA'D ASK, BUSTER! JUST KEEP YER PEEPERS GLUED TO THAT REAR WINDOW!

THIS AIN'T NO BLAMED KIDDIE CAR WE'RE SITTIN' IN!

CLICK!

SO THAT'S IT!! I DIDN'T KNOW YA'D FITTED THIS FLIVVER OUT WITH A BLASTED BORER BOMB!

WOOM!

MAYBE WE SHOULDA WRIT YA A LETTER ABOUT IT!

BULL'S-EYE! NOW WATCH 'ER DRILL HER WAY RIGHT THROUGH THE EGG'S OUTER SHELL!

SKRAKKK

KA-ROOOOM!

WELL, THAT'S ONE EGG THAT AIN'T NEVER GONNA HATCH!

YEAH! AN' I'M ALL SHOOK-UP ABOUT IT!

WAIT! LOOK... IT'S STILL FLYIN'!

WE DAMAGED IT, BUT WE DIDN'T WRECK IT! ANYTHIN' CAN HAPPEN NOW!

BUT, JUST IN CASE YOU'VE BEEN WONDERING IF WE FORGOT ABOUT OUR DASTARDLY *DRUID*, WE'LL VISIT A LONELY FOREST, WHOSE GNARLED, TWISTED TREES SERVE AS CAMOUFLAGE FOR THE HIGHLY COMPLEX SUBTERRANEAN *OBSERVATORY* HIDDEN BELOW...

THE ENEMY'S *DEFENSES* WERE SURPRISINGLY *STRONG*! OUR *SATAN'S EGG* HAS BEEN DAMAGED, BUT IT IS STILL HIGHLY POTENT!

WITHIN EACH ANCIENT LIMB IS CONCEALED A POWERFUL, MINIATURIZED PERISCOPIC AND AUDITORY OBSERVATION DEVICE!

ALL CIRCUITS STILL OPERATIONAL! AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS!

*STAND ASIDE!* I MYSELF SHALL MANEUVER OUR LITTLE EMISSARY OF EVIL!

*THIS* TIME THERE MUST BE NO MARGIN FOR ERROR!... *FURY MUST DIE!*

*STAND BY!* SINCE OUR *THERMO-RAY* HAS BEEN DISABLED, I SHALL ACTIVATE THE *TRACTION NODULES!*

EGG ARMAMENT

THERMO RAY

MULTIPLE JET GUN

TRACTION NODULES

CLICK!

*NICK!* THE BLASTED FLYIN' EGG IS *BACK!* BUT IT *MISSED* US WITH THEM TWO SHOTS!

MISSED *NOTHIN'*! IT LOBBED THEM SHELLS JUST WHERE IT *WANTED* TO! NOW *LOOK OUT!*

THEY'RE *BLOWIN' UP*... SCATTERIN' HUNKS'A *PLASTIC* ALL OVER THE ROAD AHEAD OF US!

*CLAM UP!* WHEN I NEED AN *ANNOUNCER*, I'LL CALL YA!

*PTWEEE!*

ALMOST INSTANTANEOUSLY, THE INCREDIBLE PORTIONS OF PLASTIC, STRIKING THE ROAD, STICK TO THE HARD SURFACE LIKE CEMENT, AND THEN QUICKLY *RISE*... FORMING THEMSELVES INTO A VERITABLE COMPLEX OF IMPERVIOUS *TANK TRAPS*..!

*FURY! HIT THE BRAKE!* THEM THINGS'LL *WRECK* US!

*CAN'T DO IT!* WE'RE GOIN' TOO FAST! WE CAN'T *STOP!*

BUT THERE'S *ONE* THING WE CAN TRY... OUR *AIR SACS! HANG ON!*

WHERE'D *THESE* COME FROM?? WHAT IN BLAZES *ARE* THEY?

THE SAME KINDA STUFF THE *AIR LINES* ARE EXPERIMENTIN' WITH NOW! THEY POP UP AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON... TO CUSHION THE *SHOCK!*

*SIT TIGHT!* WE'RE GONNA *HIT!!*

*YEEOOWWWW!* THE CUSHIONS... THEY *WORK!*

YEAH! NOW IF THE *CAR* STAYS IN ONE PIECE..!

*THOK!*

...WE'VE STILL GOT A *CHANCE!*

IN *THIS* BUSINESS YA DON'T FORGET *NOTHIN'*, MISTER!

YOUR *AIR JET FANS!!* I *FORGOT* ABOUT 'EM!

*WHOOSH!*

SO FAR, SO GOOD! BUT WE *STILL* GOTTA POLISH OFF THAT CRUMMY FLYIN' *EGG!*

HOW'S ABOUT *LANDIN'* AND TACKLIN' IT WITH OUR *GRENADE GUNS!*

*NOW* YER TALKIN' DUM DUM! I *KNEW* YA COULDN'T BE AS DUMB AS YOU *LOOK!*

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE JUST IN *TIME!* HERE IT COMES *NOW*.. SUNNY SIDE *UP!*

THIS IS LIKE OL' TIMES, BACK IN THE *HOWLERS!* WE'LL MAKE AN *OMELETTE* OUTTA THAT CHICKEN-SCRATCHIN' GIZMO!

LET'S HIT 'ER *HARD*.. LIKE WE USEDTA DO IN THE OL' *HOWLERS!*

I HEAR YA TALKIN', BIG MAN! *HIT THE DIRT!*



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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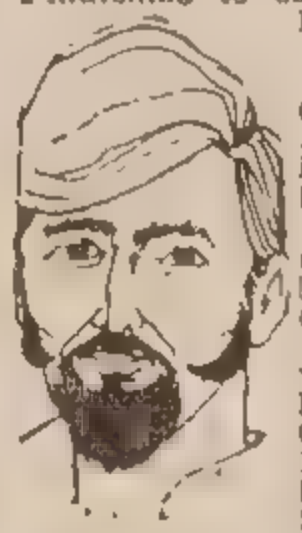

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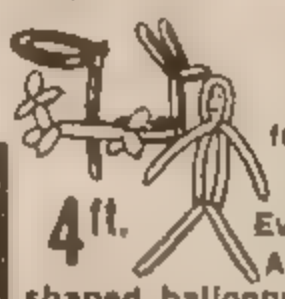

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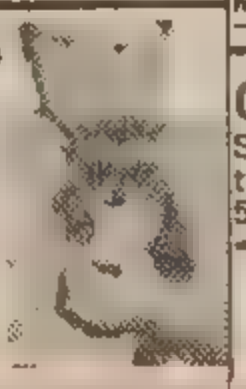

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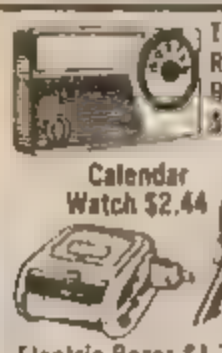

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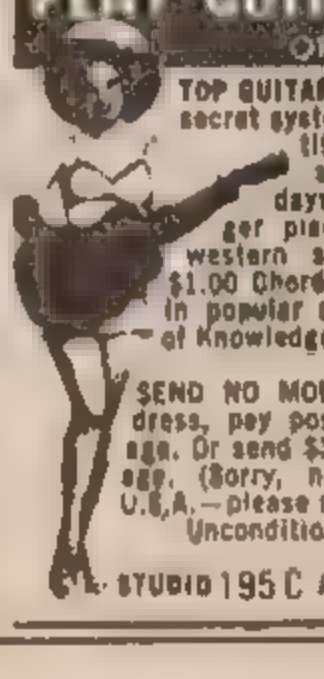

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AIM FOR THE DAMAGED OPENIN' IN THAT GIZMO! IT'S THE WEAKEST SPOT!

YEAH! GIT A BIG LEAD, NICK...IT'S REALLY TRAVELLIN'!!

NOW!

WAH

HOOOM

PYEOW

THWOK!

WA-BOOOM!

WE DID IT!

I'D NEVER'UVE GUESSED!

BUT NOW, IT'S NECESSARY FOR US TO CHANGE OUR SCENE ONCE MORE, AS WE VISIT THE INTERIOR OF A SEEMINGLY AVERAGE BARBER SHOP IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK...

BUT, I WAS TOLD I COULD FIND COLONEL FURY HERE! I'M HIS NEWEST AGENT OF SHIELD!

FURY? SHIELD? WHAT'RE YOU... SOME KINDA NUT OR SOMETHIN'? THIS IS A TONSORIAL PARLOR, SON...NOT THE PENTAGON!

BUT...!

LOOK, BUT ME NO BUTS! I GOT MY OWN TROUBLES! IF YOU DON'T WANNA HAIRCUT, THERE'S THE DOOR!

OH, NOW I GET IT! YOU DON'T TRUST ME! YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ANY CHANCES! GOOD SHOW, FELLOW AGENT! VERY CLEVER OF YOU!

I'LL SEE THAT COLONEL FURY HEARS OF YOUR CAUTION AND DEVOTION TO DUTY!

IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU, I'D RATHER YA GO OUT AND BRING ME BACK A FEW LIVE ONES! ...CUSTOMERS, THAT IS!

NOW, GO PLAY JUNIOR G-MAN SOMEWHERE ELSE, HUH? I AIN'T FINISHED LI'L ABNER YET!

VERY WELL, I'LL *PROVE* I'M AN AGENT OF *SHIELD!*

LET ME SEE YOU GET OUT OF YOUR *CHAIR!*

I SURE *WILL!* AND IT'LL BE TO TOSS YOU OUT ON YOUR... *HEY!* I'M *STUCK!*

NATURALLY! MY HIDDEN DEVICE IS AFFECTING THE *MOTOR PORTION* OF YOUR BRAIN!

IT'S SMALL ENOUGH TO BE CONCEALED IN A JACKET POCKET, AND *POWER-FUL* ENOUGH TO ALLOW ME TO CONTROL ALMOST ANY SITUATION!

SEE HOW I CAN MAKE YOU *LAUGH* HILARIOUSLY BY AFFECTING YOUR NERVE ENDINGS!

*HEY!* CUT IT OUT! *HA HA*... DON'T! C'MON... *HA HA HA*.. STOP! *STOP!*

NOW, BY APPLYING THE SLIGHTEST *SHOCK* TO YOUR REFLEXES, I CAN MAKE YOU BOLT YOUR CHAIR LIKE A SHOT!

BUT I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO *END* THIS DEMONSTRATION NOW! MY DEVICE IS READY FOR RE-CHARGING!

WHAT IN SAM HILL *IS* THAT BLASTED *DEVICE* OF YOURS ?!

MR. STARK REFERRED TO IT AS A *COAXER* WHEN HE GAVE IT TO ME! HE SURE IS A CLEVER INVENTOR!

TONY STARK GAVE *YOU* A GADGET LIKE *THAT!?!* WHAT'RE THEY DOIN' AT HQ ...RECRUITIN' *CAMPFIRE BOYS* NOW ??

OH, FORGIVE ME... I FORGOT TO *INTRODUCE* MYSELF!

*SKIP IT*, WISE GUY! YOU'RE GONNA BE TOO BUSY PICKIN' YOURSELF *UP!*

I WOULDN'T *ADVISE* THAT, SIR! I HAVE AN EXTREMELY HIGH PHYSICAL COMBAT RATING!

AWRIGHT! *AWRIGHT!* KNOCK IT OFF! IZZAT ALL YOU CREEPS GOTTA *DO?*

IT'S *COLONEL FURY!*

WHO WERE YA *EXPECTIN'???* SOUPY SALES??

START *TALKIN'*... AND TALK *FAST!*

ALLOW ME TO PRESENT MYSELF, SIR! I'M *JASPER SITWELL*, SHIELD ACADEMY, CLASS OF '66!

I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO *ASSIST* YOU IN THE CASE OF THE FLYING EGGS, SIR!

IF YER WAITIN' FER *APPLAUSE*, DON'T HOLD YER BREATH TOO LONG!

EASY, DUM DUM! THE KID'S ON *OUR* SIDE, AIN'T HE?

I KNOW YOU CONSIDER ME JUST A *ROOKIE*, COLONEL, BUT I'VE TRAINED HARD FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT, AND I GRADUATED AT THE TOP OF MY CLASS!

GLAD TA HEAR IT, KID! BUT, THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' FOR YA TO DO RIGHT *NOW*! WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHO'S *LAUNCHIN'* THOSE EGGS!

AND, UNTIL WE FIND *OUT*, ALL WE CAN DO IS MAKE *TARGETS* OF OURSELVES WHILE WE WAIT FOR THEIR NEXT ATTACK!

NOW AIN'T *THAT* A COMFORTIN' THOUGHT?!!

NEVER FEAR, SIR! I SHALL DO WHATEVER IS *REQUIRED* OF ME! WHATEVER DEADLY *DAMAGE* MAY BEFALL, I SHALL NOT SHIRK... I SHALL NOT BE FOUND WANTING!

YEAH, SURE! SURE! THAT'S REAL NICE, KID... REAL, REAL NICE!

*THANK YOU*, COLONEL! COMMENDATION FROM A MAN OF *YOUR* STATURE IS TRIBUTE INDEED!

I SHALL GIVE OF MYSELF UNSTINTINGLY TO BE WORTHY OF YOUR TRUST, YOUR FAITH, YOUR CONFIDENCE!

WHEN THE CLARION CALL IS SOUNDED, *JASPER SITWELL* SHALL BE FOUND IN THE FRONT RANKS, DAUNTLESS AND UNAFRAID!

THE USUAL, COLONEL?

YEAH, AND MAKE IT FAST!

IT IS GIVEN TO *FEW* MEN TO SERVE THE FORCES OF *SHIELD*... AND, THOSE OF US WHO ARE CHOSEN, DARE NOT TAKE THE CHALLENGE LIGHTLY!

IS HE FER *REAL*, NICK?

YA MEET ALL KINDS, DUM DUM!

IF, IN MY HUMBLE WAY, I CAN ADD NEW LUSTER TO THE GLORY OF THE CORPS, *THAT* WILL BE REWARD *ENOUGH* FOR JASPER SITWELL!

EVER SHALL I BE TRUE TO THOSE INSPIRING, IMPERISHIBLE WORDS... *DON'T YIELD... BACK SHIELD!*

I THINK I'M GETTIN' NAUSEOUS!

MEBBE WE CAN LEND-LEASE 'IM TO *UNCLE!*

TH-THEY'VE *GONE!*

YEAH... SOME GUYS HAVE ALL THE LUCK!

OKAY, THAT'S THAT! WE'VE SET THE STAGE... INTRODUCED OUR PLAYERS... AND PAVED THE WAY FOR NEXT ISSUE'S FANTASTIC THRILLER!

THE ACTION REACHES *FEVER PITCH* NEXT ISH... AND WE DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT *THAT* MEANS! SO *BE HERE*... THAT'S AN *ORDER!*

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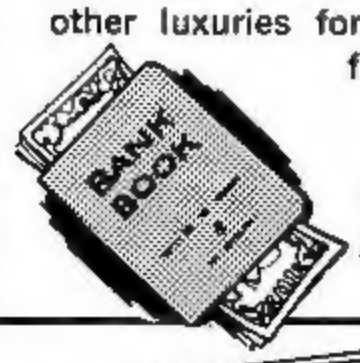


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